Application No.: 09/986,190

V. REMARKS

So that it can be more clearly perceived than before that the present invention relates to a method for managing an overhead infrastructure, claims 1 to 6 are canceled and instead thereof claims 7 to 12 are now presented for examination.

The invention of method claimed in claims 7 to 12 is not obvious over <u>Chikiri</u> et al. (US patent 5,727,777) in view of <u>Kuenzi</u> (US Patent 2,155,053). Particularly, <u>Chikiri et al.</u> does not teach the step of extending an overhead line in an empty space of the overhead cableways on demand according to the applicant's claim 7. Also, <u>Chikiri et al.</u> does not teach the step of extending an overhead lines in an empty space of the overhead cableways on demand, the overhead lines respectively being used by each of business conductors according to claim 8.

It is respectfully submitted that a person skilled in the art can readily understand the claims with reference to the specification. For example, claim 8 includes the term "business conductors". It can be clearly seen from considering the disclosure of the specification that "business conductors" mean "individuals" or "natural persons" or "enterprises".

Regarding the claim 9, it is respectfully submitted that one skilled in the art, armed with the present specification, would be able to "provide for rent or sale with a fee according to a number and weight of the overhead lines", because the number and weight of the overhead lines are limited by the capacity of the overhead cableways so that the fee may be simply calculated from a total amount of cost and profit in the business divided by the number or weight of the overhead lines.

Regarding the claim 11, it is respectfully submitted that one skilled in the art, armed with the present specification, would be able to "set a size of the overhead cableways based on the estimated demand", because the overhead cableways may be simply designed to have a size in which an estimated number of the overhead lines are geometrically fitted.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of the application and allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe anything further is desirable in order to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below.

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Should additional fees be necessary in connection with the filing of this paper or if a Petition for Extension of Time is required for timely acceptance of the same, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 18-0013 for any such fees and Applicant(s) hereby petition for such extension of time.

By:

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: May 21, 2004

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